Docket No.: 0696-0229PUS1

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Vesa MYLLYMAEKI et al.

Application No.: 10/566,975 Confirmation No.: 2874

Filed: November 16, 2006 Art Unit: 1623

For: STARCH ESTERIFICATION METHOD Examiner: L. D. Bland

PRELIMINARY RESPONSE

MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 November 17, 2008

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, the following remarks are respectfully submitted. These preliminary remarks are being submitted together with an RCE application in the light of the Advisory Office Action dated November 4, 2008.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.